

REMARKS

The applicant acknowledges, with appreciation, the interview with the Examiner, the Examiner's Supervisor and the undersigned on September 8, 2004. The undersigned is of the understanding that the Examiner will provide an Examiner Interview Summary of the issues discussed during the interview.

The above claim amendments are believed to place the application in condition for allowance. As discussed with the Examiners, the claims have been amended above to further indicate that the hydrophobic interaction media is a chromatography support containing a hydrophobic pendent group. Such materials are widely used and known generally, and without limitation of the claims, as HIC materials. Moreover, the claims have been amended above to indicate that the "conditions" of the claims relate generally to at least salt concentrations.

Claim 1 has been amended above and claims 65-79 added, based on claims 1-11 and 13-16, respectively, as the Examiner was understood to be concerned about a potential interference of the unamended claim 1 and claims of Kitamura (U.S. Patent No. 6,441,160).

The claims are submitted to patentable over the art of record and supported by an enabling disclosure which adequately describes the claimed invention.

For completeness, the applicants note submit that the previously-filed Declaration establishes that the applicant that made the claimed invention prior to the U.S. filing date of the cited Kitamura patent, as opposed to establishing "that the instant application is filed before the Kitamura patent", as asserted by the Examiner. See, page 4 of the Office Action dated August 10, 2004.

RAMASUBRAMANYAN
Appl. No. 09/578,507
Amendment Under Rule 116
October 5, 2004

The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to discuss the present application in the event anything further is required. A Notice of Allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: _____



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